MAR 0 8 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE LEGISLATURE TO RE-EVALUATE THE MAXIMUM CLAIMABLE AMOUNT OF THE LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD RENTERS TAX CREDIT PER TAXPAYER IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE RENTAL UNITS FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS.

WHEREAS, the State is experiencing a housing crisis, with a severe lack of affordable housing and rental units for residents, particularly for low- and moderate-income residents; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, as of 2018, in Honolulu, a single person making \$65,350 and a family of four making \$93,300 are considered low-income; and

WHEREAS, a single person making \$40,850 and a family of four making \$58,300 are now considered very low-income; and

WHEREAS, under existing law, a taxpayer with an adjusted gross income of less than \$30,000 is considered low-income for purposes of claiming a low-income household renters tax credit; and

WHEREAS, the low-income household renters tax credit was established to assist many of Hawaii's low- and moderate-income families with the high cost of rent in the State; and

WHEREAS, the low-income household renters tax credit amount has not been changed since 1981, and the adjusted gross income ceiling has not been adjusted since 1989; and

WHEREAS, existing law needs to be updated in order to address the stark difference in income levels from the 1980s to recent years; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the Legislature is encouraged to re-evaluate the maximum claimable amount of the low-income household renters tax credit per

taxpayer in order to address the shortage of affordable rental units for low-income households; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

OFFERED BY: